



MOVING COMMUNICATION FORWARD



## The EMA Wednesday Report

### Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Good Morning/Good Afternoon:

Here is Wednesday report Number 6. The focus is now shifting to opening up our nation. The White House released the [Opening Up America Again Guidelines](#) last Thursday. As you will read, the report leaves most of the actions up to each State. There is a gating criterion in the report that provides the indicators by State that will be needed to gradually open up throughout May and June, depending upon the State.

One of the most important parts of the gating process is three elements:

- The ability to quickly set up safe and efficient screening and testing sites for symptomatic individuals and trace contacts of COVID+ results.
- The ability to test Syndromic/ILI persons and trace contacts of COVID+ results.
- Ensure sentinel surveillance sites are screening for asymptomatic cases and contacts for COVID+ results are traced.

So the operative words here are testing and screening. The government tells us we should practice good hygiene and if you have an employee that is sick; they need to stay home. Employers also have guidelines that they should follow:

- Social distancing and protective equipment should be observed and used.
- Temperature checks
- Make sure that employees get tested if they show symptoms, and of course, send them home.
- Observe proper plant sanitation (EMA is writing a report on this)
- Use and disinfection of common high-traffic areas.
- Only travel for business if absolutely necessary.

There are three phases to the National plan. You can read them in the document. All of these phases are State dependent, but as we reach phase two, non-essential travel can resume. If you are in a State with no rebounds of cases, that moves you into Phase III.

Keep in mind that the plan identifies Vulnerable Individuals as those that are elderly and individuals with serious health problems. Our website will contain more details as we receive them from the government USPS COVID-19 task force so we will be reporting on each below.

#### **Latest from USPS...**

##### Friday Meeting

- USPS published a continuity of operations report that stated there could be delays in delivery for Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express Shipments which will go from one to two to four days nationwide. The USPS needs the extra days right now. This is not a permanent change.
- First-Class guaranteed services might also be altered right now by one day.
- The USPS remains committed to making sure that all mail is delivered and you can help by keeping your business post box, if you have one, clean and uncluttered. At your residence, please make sure your mailbox is cleaned every day.
- Several shippers are experiencing delays with their FAST shipments in the Detroit area; the USPS is looking into this.
- Please also note that the air bridge to Europe is continuing, new flights are being contracted.

## Monday Report

On Monday we covered the status of mail volume for last week. Here is the flash report update:

- Total mail is down 39.7 percent.
- Single piece first is down 25 percent.
- Presort First is down 8 percent.
- Marketing mail is down 50 percent.
- Total packages are up 28 percent.

The USPS will run an ad on the importance of mail during this time, starting on Monday, April 20 and continuing for several days. The ad will be placed on news and sports channels where viewers normally do not channel surf. This would be a great week to call or write to your Member of Congress on the importance of the Postal Service for your business. It is easy to get the phone numbers and addresses either through the EMA website or via Google.

### **Latest from American Forest and Paper**

- AF&PA provided a few state updates and emphasized that states will govern the reopening of the economy.
- States have formed three regional organizations to collaborate on testing and opening. They are the Western Region with Washington, Oregon and California collaborating. The central region includes Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Massachusetts, Michigan and Wisconsin. The Northeast includes New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. The idea of these regional organizations is to synchronize testing and opening requirements.
- There will be several more COVID or CARES Acts. The next one is will have additional money for the Paycheck Protection Program and will be targeted on small businesses.
- Recycling is becoming a major issue as international waste shipments have concluded for the short run and local mills are dealing with a myriad of local recycling laws. We will hear more about this in future meetings.

### **Key Web Links...**

The EMA website is your single source for information on what everyone in the graphic arts industry is doing right now. Please visit [www.envelope.org/COVID-19](http://www.envelope.org/COVID-19) regularly for updates. We have also added a Question and Answer document on the Paycheck Protection Plan and other updates, so please visit the website. CISA has released its third listing of essential industries. It adds in the Printers that were excluded before. There may be one or two more lists, but they will just clarify previous listings. Envelope converters have remained open. The latest list is available on our website.

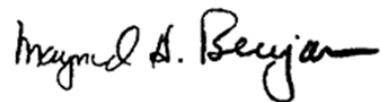
### **Legislative Briefings**

There will be a future COVID Bill that will deal with the Postal Service. It is taking some time to pull together this new package and bearing any "left turns" from the Administration this bill will come together soon. EMA will schedule a briefing with our government affairs team as soon as we have details. As each COVID Bill is completed, we will schedule conference calls to review.

The COVID II bill that hopefully will be passed this week contains more funding for the small business paycheck protection program. The appropriations bill includes \$250 billion more for PPP, \$50 billion for small lenders, \$50 billion in disaster aid refill, \$75 billion for hospitals and \$25 billion for testing supplies.

A few States are starting to open up, but it is very restrictive. Your State's website should provide you details on which businesses will be allowed to open.

Until Next Time,



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